

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 5-6, 9-14, 24-25, 28-37, 39, and 45-52 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-4, 7, 15-17, 20-23, 26, 38, and 40-43 as shown herein.

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 15-23, 26-27, 38, and 40-44 are pending and are listed following:

1. **(currently amended)** A network system, comprising:

a network server configured to maintain network access information corresponding to users authorized to access the network system;

a domain controller remotely located from the network server at a remote network site and communicatively linked with the network server, the domain controller configured to cache the network access information locally administrate access to the network system; and

the domain controller further configured to:

track individual users that request access to the network system from via the domain controller at the remote network site;

receive a first network access request from a user and validate the first network access request with the network access information maintained at the network server;

cache the network access information; and

receive a second network access request from the user and validate the second network access request with the network access information cached at the domain controller.

1 **2. (currently amended)** A network system as recited in claim 1,
2 wherein the domain controller is further configured to cache the network access
3 information only for the individual users that request access to the network system
4 from via the domain controller at the remote network site.

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6 **3. (currently amended)** A network system as recited in claim 1,
7 wherein the domain controller is further configured to update the network access
8 information at the domain controller for the individual users that request access to
9 the network system from via the domain controller at the remote network site.

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11 **4. (currently amended)** A network system as recited in claim 1,
12 wherein the domain controller is further configured to update the network access
13 information at the domain controller for the individual users that request access to
14 the network system from via the domain controller at the remote network site
15 within a defined time interval.

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17 **5-6. canceled**

1 7. (currently amended) A network system as recited in claim 1,
2 wherein: the domain controller is further configured to receive a network access
3 request from a user and validate the network access request with the network
4 access information maintained in the network server before the domain controller
5 caches the network access information; and the domain controller is further
6 configured to receive a second network access request from the user and validate
7 the second network access request with the network access information cached at
8 the domain controller if the second network access request is within a defined time
9 interval.

10 8. (original) A network system as recited in claim 1, wherein:
11 the network access information comprises identifiers to indicate network
12 group memberships that an individual user is a member of in the network system;
13 and
14 the domain controller is further configured to maintain user objects
15 associated with the individual users that request access to the network system from
16 the domain controller, and cache the identifiers to the user objects.

18 9-14. canceled
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1 **15. (currently amended)** A network, comprising:
2 a global information server configured to maintain network information
3 corresponding to users of the network;

4 a remote server communicatively linked with the global information server,
5 the remote server configured to:

6 receive a first network access request from a user and validate the
7 first network access request with the network information maintained at the
8 global information server;

9 cache the network information;

10 receive a second network access request from the user and validate
11 the second network access request with the network information cached at
12 the remote server;

13 track individual users that request access to the network from the
14 remote server; and

15 update the network information cached at the remote server for the
16 individual users that access the network from the remote server.

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18 **16. (currently amended)** A network as recited in claim 15,
19 wherein the remote server is further configured to update the network information
20 cached at the remote server for the individual users that access the network from
21 the remote server within a defined time interval.

1 **17. (currently amended)** A network as recited in claim 15,
2 wherein the remote server is further configured to receive a user request to access
3 the network and validate the second network access user request with the network
4 information cached at the remote server if the user accessed the network from the
5 remote server within a defined time interval.

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7 **18. (original)** A network as recited in claim 15, wherein the remote
8 server is further configured to track individual users that request access to the
9 network information cached at the remote server.

10
11 **19. (original)** A network as recited in claim 15, wherein the remote
12 server is further configured to receive a user request to access the network
13 information cached at the remote server and validate the user request if the user
14 accessed the network from the remote server within a defined time interval.

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1 **20. (currently amended)** A method, comprising:
2 maintaining, at a first site, network access information at a first network
3 site, the network access information identifying that identifies users authorized to
4 access a network;

5 validating a first network access request from a user at a second network
6 site with the network access information maintained at the first network site;
7 caching the network access information at a the second network site; and
8 validating a second network access request from the user at the second
9 network site with the network access information cached at the second network
10 site; and

11 tracking individual user requests to access the network from the second
12 network site.

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14 **21. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 20, wherein
15 said caching comprises storing the network access information at the second
16 network site only for the individual users that request access to the network from
17 the second network site.

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19 **22. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 20, further
20 comprising updating the network access information at the second network site for
21 the individual users that periodically request access to the network from the
22 second network site.

1 **23. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 20, further
2 comprising updating the network access information at the second network site for
3 the individual users that request access to the network from the second network
4 site within a defined time interval.

5 **24-25. canceled**

6 **26. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 20, further
7 comprising:

8 ~~validating a network access request from a user at the second site with the~~
9 ~~network access information maintained at the first site, wherein said validating~~
10 ~~occurs before said caching; and~~

11 ~~validating a second network access request from the user at the second site,~~
12 ~~wherein said validating the second network access request comprises validating~~
13 ~~the second network access request with the network access information cached at~~
14 ~~the second network site if the second network access request is within a defined~~
15 ~~time interval.~~

16 **27. (original)** A computer-readable medium comprising computer
17 executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to perform
18 the method of claim 20.

19 **28-37. canceled**

1 **38. (currently amended) A method, comprising:**

2 maintaining, at a network global information server, network information at
3 a global information server, the network information corresponding to users of the
4 network;

5 receiving a first network access request from a user at a remote server
6 communicatively linked with the global information server;

7 validating the first network access request at the remote server with the
8 network information maintained at the global information server;

9 caching the network information at a the remote server;

10 receiving a second network access request from the user at the remote
11 server;

12 validating the second network access request at the remote server with the
13 network information cached at the remote server;

14 tracking users that request access to the network via the remote server; and
15 updating the network information cached at the remote server with the
16 network information maintained at the global information server for users
17 authorized to access the network from the remote server, and that accessed the
18 remote server within a defined time interval.

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20 **39. canceled**

1 **40. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 38, further
2 comprising:

3 ~~receiving a user request to access the network; and wherein said validating~~
4 the second network access request comprises validating the user second network
5 access request with the network information cached at the remote server if the
6 second network access request is received within a defined time interval.

7 **41. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 38, further
8 comprising:

9 tracking users that access the cached network information cached at the
10 remote server; and

11 updating the network information cached at the remote server with the
12 network information maintained at the global information server for users
13 authorized to access the network information from the remote server, and that
14 accessed the network information cached at the remote server within a defined
15 time interval.

16 **42. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 38, further
17 comprising:

18 receiving a user request to access the network information cached at the
19 remote server; and

20 validating the user request at the remote server.

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1 **43. (currently amended)** A method as recited in claim 38, further
2 comprising:

3 receiving a user request to access the network information cached at the
4 remote server; and

5 validating the user request at the remote server if the user request is
6 received within a defined time interval.

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8 **44. (original)** A computer-readable medium comprising computer
9 executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to perform
10 the method of claim 38.

11 **45-52. canceled**

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